IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re U.S. Patent Application) I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as EXPRESS MAIL in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop PATENT APPLICATION, Commissioner for Patents, P.O.
Applicant: Takeuchi et al.	Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this date.) February 12, 2004
Serial No.	Date Express Mail Label No.: EV 032731576 US
Filed: February 12, 2004))
For: INTERFACE APPARATUS AND PACKET TRANSFER METHOD)))
Art Unit:)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Patent Application Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This IDS is submitted under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b) within either of the following time periods, whichever occurs last:

- (a) within three months of either the filing date of the national application or the date of entry into the national stage; or
- (b) before the mailing date of first office action on the merits (i.e., not including actions such as restriction requirements).

Applicant(s) submit herewith Form PTO-1449 (Information Disclosure Citation) together with copies of patents, publications or other information of which applicant(s) are aware, which applicant(s) believe may be material to the examination of this application and for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56. Applicant(s) respectfully submit that the citation of any reference on Form PTO-1449 does not constitute an admission that the reference qualifies as prior art.

It is requested that the information disclosed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be made of record in this application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required to this application under 37 C.F.R.§§1.16-1.17, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 07-2069. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

February 12, 2004

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Chicago, Illinois 60606 Telephone: (312) 360-0080 Facsimile: (312) 360-9315 **Customer Number 24978** Respectfully submitted,

GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD.

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Form PTO-1449 U.S. Department of Commerce (Rev. 8-88) Patent and Trademark Office			Attorney Docket No.: 1990	Serial No.:				
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(Use several sheets if necessary)				Filing Date: February 12, 2004		Group:		
U.S. PATEN	T DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initial*	Document Number	Date	Name		Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate	
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FOREIGN P	ATENT DOCUMENTS	1800						
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	Document Number	Date	Country		Class	Subclass	Yes	No
	2001-229115	August 24, 2001	Japan				Abs.	
	2001-117724	April 27, 2001	Japan				Abs.	
	2002-051072	Feb. 15, 2002	Japan				Abs.	
OTHER DO	CUMENTS (Including Aut	hor, Title, Date, Pe	ertinent Pages	s, Etc.)	<u> </u>	1	L	
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